that the town roads, now under the control of the Maramat and Public Works Departments, the *poramboke* lands adjoining the roads and the temple tank should be transferred to the control of the Town Improvement Committee. The watchers of the tank and the funds for the maintenance of the roads and the pay of the watchers should also be made over to the Committee.

The Member also requested that the under-mentioned means of communication in the taluk should be improved:—

(1) The village road from Thirumani-Venkitapuram to the Ithipuzha bridge should be made into a cartable road.

(2) The roads in and about the town, which were now in a neglected condition, should be improved.

(3) The road on either side of the Puthenthodu should be metalled and two bridges should be constructed, one at the eastern and the other at the western extremity of the canal.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

100. The necessity for improving certain tanks and sinking more wells in the Changanacherri town.

Mr. P. A. Athicha Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Changanacherri) said that there was no good drinking water for the people of the town. There were three tanks in the taluk, *viz*., the Puvakkattu chira, the Chitrakulam and the Vazhappalli temple tank. These would get dried up in the hot weather and the water would be muddy in the monsoons. The matter had been represented to the Division Peishkar and estimates were called for. In the market, there was at present only one well. It was quite inadequate to meet requirements. He requested that steps might be taken to improve at least one of the three tanks, and also to sink two additional wells in the market. One well should be in the centre and the other at the eastern extremity of the market.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The Chief Engineer will be asked to send up estimates for two more wells.

(2) Medical Relief.

101. The need for a hospital for Ghosha women at Nagercoil.

Mr. G. S. Uthumal Sahib Daha Lebba Alim Sahib (Member, Nominated) said that women were generally subject to more ailments than men. Except in Trivandrum, they had at present to get medical aid from male doctors. But most women would not be prepared to face male doctors, explain their maladies to them and obtain relief. They were therefore meekly submitting themselves as a prey to disease. In some cases, many lives had also been lost by unskilled treatment which they afforded themselves. The above evils were due to the absence of separate hospitals for *Gosha* women, in important stations, as in British India. He prayed for one such institution being established at Nagercoil.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

102. The necessity for improving the dispensary at Colachel.

The Revd. Fr. Fernandez (Member, T. I. C., Colachel) said that there was no well attached to the Government dispensary at Colachel, which was started about the year 1893. He requested that a well should be constructed for the dispensary.

He next said that there was a small ward attached to the dispensary, which could accommodate six in-patients. Until recently, the patients had to make their own arangements for diet, but the poor patients were now being given a daily allowance for their diet. They generally got their diet from the clubs. The self-dieting system was dangerous. The Member therefore requested that accommodation should

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be provided for more in-patients and that food should be supplied to the poor patients from the dispensary, instead of the daily allowance in money.

The Member next said that the practice of quack physicians treating patients should be discouraged. There were so many as 50 quacks in the small town of Colachel. He requested that the Government should take stringent measures to remedy the growing evil.

Lastly, he said that the dense shrubs growing luxuriantly over the A. V. M. Canal were a source of danger to the public health, and he requested that the jungle growth should be cleared, the water of the canal cleansed by means of drains, and a few bathing ghats also constructed.

Dewan's reply.—The representations of the Member, in regard to the Colachel dispensary, will be communicated to the Darbar Physician.

103. The need for a dispensary at Ottasekharamangalam.

The Revd. Samuel Sumanam (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) thanked the Government for starting a Town Improvement Committee in Neyyatinkara and allowing a Member to represent it at the Assembly. He said that the northern *pakuthies* of Perunkadavila, Kunnathukal, Ottasekharamangalam &c were hilly tracts. Fever annually visited the places, and, once in three years, it assumed an epidemic form. Small-pox and cholera also raged in some years and carried off many lives. The places were 8 and 10 miles away from the main road and the hospital at Parassala, and the dispensary at Neyyattinkara was more than 14 miles away. In times of malarial fever, the Government usually deputed medical officers on special duty, and, through their reports, the Government would have been convinced of the need for a medical institution in the locality. He therefore requested that a dispensary be established at Ottasekaramangalam. It would also benefit the people living in the north-eastern portion of the Nedumangad taluk and the north-western *pakuthies* of the Vilavancode taluk. If the Government entertained any doubts on financial grounds, he suggested that the hospital at Parassala might be reduced to a dispensary and a new dispensary opened at Ottasekaramangalam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-20 P. M.

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